Listing of Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.(Currently Amended) A method for improving the transmission efficiency of an original video signal transmitted as a plurality of frames, said frames containing said video signal encoded in a base layer and an enhancement layer wherein at least one element of said enhancement layer is selectively enhanced by designating said at least one ~~selected~~ element to have a higher priority of transmission, said method comprising:

transmitting in a first <u>one of said</u> frame<u>s</u> a first set of criteria; and

transmitting an indicator in ~~each of said~~ subsequent ~~transmission~~ <u>ones of said</u> frames when ~~said~~ selective elements contained therein have substantially the same set of criteria as said first <u>set of</u> criteria.

2.(Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said first <u>set of</u> criteria includes at least one enhancement factor value.

3.(Original) The method as recited in claim 2 wherein said at least one enhancement factor value is applied to each element within in said enhancement layer.

4.(Cancelled)

5.(Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 2 wherein said <u>at least one</u> enhancement factor <u>value</u> is power of two.

6.(Cancelled)

7.(Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim ~~6~~ <u>1</u> wherein said first <u>set of</u> criteria includes position, size and enhancement factor value ~~for each of said at least one elements.~~

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8.(Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 7 wherein said ~~at least one element~~ position ~~value~~ is selected with respect to a known point.

9.(Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said first set of criteria includes at least one second indicator that indicates a corresponding known value.

10.(Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 9 wherein said known ~~values are~~ is selected from the group consisting of position, displacement vector, size, and enhancement factor.

11.(Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 9 wherein said indicator is substantially the same as said at least one second indicator.

12.(Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said elements comprises a plurality of pixels in an array having an equal number of rows and columns.

13.(Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the number of rows is selected from the group consisting of 2, 3, 4, 8, and 16.

14.(Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said enhancement layer is fine granular scalability encoded.

15.(Currently Amendment) A device for reformatting ~~the~~ frames of a video data stream for improving the transmission efficiency of said video data steam, wherein said video data stream includes a base layer and an enhancement layer wherein at least one element of said enhancement layer is selectively enhanced by designating said at least one ~~selected~~ element to have a higher priority of transmission, said device comprising:

      means for receiving frames ~~each~~ of said enhancement layer ~~frames~~;

means for generating a first set of enhancement criteria associated with a first <u>one of said</u> frame<u>s</u>; and

means for generating an indicator in ~~each of said~~ subsequent ~~transmission~~ <u>ones of said</u> frames when ~~said~~ selective elements contained therein have substantially the same set of enhancement criteria as said first <u>set of</u> enhancement criteria.

16.(Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 15 wherein said first <u>set of</u> criteria includes at least one enhancement factor value.

17.(Original) The device as recited in claim 16 wherein said at least one enhancement factor value corresponds to each element within in said enhancement layer.

18.(Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 16 wherein said at least on<u>e</u> ~~shift~~ enhancement <u>factor</u> value corresponds to ~~each of~~ said at least one ~~selectively enhanced elements~~ <u>element</u>.

19.(Currently Amended)   The device as recited in claim 16 wherein said <u>at least one</u> enhancement factor <u>value</u> is power of two.

20.(Cancelled)

21.(Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim ~~20~~ <u>15</u> wherein said first <u>set of</u> criteria includes position, size and enhancement factor value ~~for each of said at least one elements~~.

22.(Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 21 wherein said ~~at least one element~~ position ~~value~~ is selected with respect to a known point.

23.(Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 15 wherein said first <u>set of</u> criteria includes at least one second indicator that indicates a corresponding known value.

24.(Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 23 wherein said known values ~~are~~ is selected from the group consisting of position, displacement vector, size, and enhancement factor.

25.(Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 23 wherein said indicator is substantially the same as said at least one second indicator.

26.(Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 15 wherein said element comprises a plurality of pixels contained in an array having an equal number of rows and columns.[[.]]

27.(Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 26 wherein the number of rows is selected from the group consisting of 2, 3, 4, 8, and 16.

28.(Original) The device as recited in claim 15 wherein said enhancement layer is fine granular scalability encoded.

29.(Currently Amended) A~~n~~ apparatus for coding video, said apparatus being operational to improve the transmission efficiency of a video signal transmitted as a plurality of frames, said frames containing said video signal encoded in a base layer and an enhancement layer wherein at least one element of said enhancement layer is selectively enhanced by designating said at least one ~~selected~~ element to have a higher priority of transmission, said ~~system~~ apparatus comprising:

means for transmitting a first set of criteria in a first one of said frames; and

means for transmitting an indicator in ~~each of said~~ subsequent ~~transmission~~ ones of said frames when ~~said selective~~ elements contained therein have substantially the same set of ~~enhancement~~ criteria as said first set of ~~enhancement~~ criteria.

30.(Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 29 wherein said first set of criteria includes at least one enhancement factor value.

31.(Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 30 wherein said at least one enhancement factor value corresponds to each element within in said enhancement layer.

32.(Cancelled)

33.(Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 30 wherein said at least one enhancement factor value is power of two.

34.(Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 29 wherein said at least one element is composed of a plurality of elements.

35.(Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 34 wherein said first set of criteria includes position, size and enhancement factor value for each of said at least one elements.

36.(Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 35 wherein said at least one element position value is selected with respect to a known point.

37.(Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 29 wherein said first set of criteria includes at least one second indicator that indicates a corresponding known value.

38.(Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 37 wherein said known values are is selected from the group consisting of position, displacement vector, size, and enhancement factor.

39.(Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 37 wherein said indicator is substantially the same as said at least one second indicator.

40.(Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 29 wherein said enhancement layer is fine granular scalability encoded.

41.(Currently Amended) A system operational to improve the transmission efficiency of a video signal transmitted as a plurality of frames, said frames containing said video signal encoded in a base layer and an enhancement layer wherein at least one element of said enhancement layer is selectively enhanced by designating said at least one ~~selected~~ element to have a higher priority of transmission, said system comprising:

means for transmitting a first set of criteria in a first <u>one of said</u> frame<u>s</u> ~~having a base layer and an enhancement layer~~;

means for transmitting an indicator in ~~each of said~~ subsequent ~~transmission~~ <u>ones of said</u> frames when ~~said selective~~ elements contained within <u>said</u> subsequent ~~transmission~~ <u>ones of said</u> frames have substantially the same set of ~~enhancement~~ criteria as said first ~~enhancement~~ <u>set of</u> criteria;[[.]]

means for receiving ~~each of~~ said ~~transmitted frames~~ <u>first set of criteria in said first one of said frames and said indicator in said subsequent ones of said frames</u>; and

means for applying said first set of ~~enhancement~~ criteria to <u>the</u> elements of a ~~received enhancement layer~~ <u>said subsequent ones of said frames</u> when said indicator<u>s</u> ~~is~~ <u>are</u> detected in said <u>subsequent ones of said</u> frame<u>s</u>.

42.(Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim 41 wherein said first <u>set of</u> criteria includes at least one enhancement factor value.

43.(Original) The system as recited in claim 41 wherein said at least one enhancement factor value corresponds to each element within said enhancement layer.

44.(Cancelled)

45.(Currently Amended) A device for improving the transmission efficiency of an original video signal transmitted as a plurality of frames, said frames containing said video signal encoded in a base layer and an enhancement layer wherein at least one element of said enhancement layer is selectively enhanced by designating said at least one ~~selected~~ element to have a higher priority of transmission, said ~~method~~ device comprising:

   code for transmitting in a first one of said frames a first set of criteria; and

   code for transmitting an indicator in ~~each of said~~ subsequent ~~transmission~~ ones of said frames when ~~said selective~~ elements contained therein have substantially the same set of criteria as said first set of criteria.